

REMARKS

Claims in the Application. The Examiner in the FINAL Office Action indicated that Claims 18-23, 25, 54, 55, 58, 59, 62, 64, 77, 78, 87 and 89-93 were allowed; of the allowed claims, Claims 18, 19, 64, 87 and 89 are independent claims. In the instant amendment, Applicants have cancelled all of the non-allowed independent claims. Applicants have cancelled 12 claims which were subject to final rejection – Claims 1, 3-4, 45, 57, 63, 71-72, 80-82 and 94. Applicants have added 12 new dependent claims – Claims 96-107. All of the dependent claims now active in this application are dependent on allowed independent Claims 18, 19, 64 and 87. As such, the amendment to the claims and presentment of new dependent claims do not raise any issue of new matter.

The claims may be grouped as follows:

- (a) Claim 18 and dependent Claims 96, 5, 9-15, 17, 23-29, 31-43, 47-49, 73-74, 77-78 and 84;
- (b) Claim 19 and dependent Claims 7, 20-22, 44, 50, 58-59, 65-68, 76, 83, 97-98 and 101-106;
- (c) Claim 64 and dependent Claims 8, 16, 46, 54-55, 62, 69-70, 75, 86, 99-100 and 107;
- (d) Claim 89 and dependent Claims 51, 79, 85, 90-93, 95 and 100; and
- (e) Claim 87.

Most of the claim amendments have been made to provide clearer antecedent basis for language and to change the dependency from rejected (and now cancelled) claims to those claims now allowed. The Examiner is therefore respectfully requested to enter the amendments and issue a Notice of Allowance.

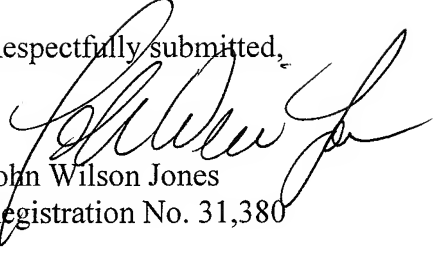
Examiner's Rejection Over *Webb*. The Examiner has maintained the rejection of previously presented Claims 1, 3-5, 7-17, 24, 26-29, 31-51, 57, 63, 65-76, 79-86 and 94-95 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by WO 99/54592 ("*Webb*"). The cancellation of and amendment to the claims, as discussed *supra*, renders a discussion of this rejection unnecessary.

Conclusions. The Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned should she deem it prudent to expedite the prosecution of this application.

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Respectfully submitted,


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